

Draft Meeting Notes
Suisun Marsh Levee Investigation Team Meeting
February 8, 1999 at 1:00 pm in room 1142 of the Resources Building

Attendance List:

Dennis Becker, DFG
Steven Chappell, Suisun Resource Conservation District
Rob Cooke, CALFED Levee Program
Gilbert Cosio, Murray, Burns, & Kienlen
Paul Dabbs, DWR Central District
Chris Enright, DWR Environmental Services Office
Kamyar Guivetchi, DWR Suisun Marsh Branch
Gwen Knittweis, CALFED Levee Program (Team Chair)
Arnold Lenk, Reclamation District 2127
Brian McFadin, DWR Suisun Marsh Planning
Terry Mills, CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program
Michael Ramsbotham, CALFED Levee Program/ACOE
Jim Starr, DFG

A meeting was held to discuss progress of the Suisun Marsh Levee Investigation Team. The purpose of the investigation is to provide information necessary to enable CALFED to make an informed decision on whether or not spending money on Suisun Marsh levees is a cost-effective way to meet CALFED goals.

Chris Enright indicated that his office is producing a report shortly that summarizes the results of the Suisun Marsh modeling. Chris will supply copies of the Suisun Marsh modeling summary report to the group.

Chris supplied a technical write-up describing modeling work that needs to be done for the investigation for integration into an RFP. CALFED will follow through on the administrative details of RFP preparation. Chris estimated that it is conceivable that modeling work could be completed within 6 months.

Jim Star presented potential tidal wetlands sites. It was suggested that scenarios be developed for modeling purposes. Rob Cooke mentioned the possibility of screening potential sites to cut down on the workload by factors such as political viability, elevation, cost of levee maintenance, etc. Terry Mills, Jim Starr, and Steve Chappell will be meeting to refine scenarios.

Steve Chappell suggested using the Montezuma Wetlands area as a start for the modeling input. It was agreed that the Montezuma Wetland would be included in the model.

It was questioned whether other habitat types would be considered in making an evaluation of environmental benefits of including Suisun Marsh in the CALFED

Program- they will be included, although the current focus is on tidal wetlands because of the potential water quality benefits as well as ecosystem benefits.

It was suggested that CALFED consider rating wetlands as far as money for maintenance versus benefits.

Chris E. mentioned that it may be worthwhile to continue modeling 1-D scenarios while the 2-d verification is ongoing.

Arnold Lenk suggested considering inclusion of the areas in northern Contra Costa county towards wetlands goals. It was also questioned how this would impact DWR modeling.

Kamyar Guivetchi mentioned that the water quality results seem to be more closely linked to the location and size of a breach as opposed to total acres flooded.

The next meeting for the whole group was scheduled for March 8 in Room 1142 from 1-3pm. The modelers will meet with the scenario-developing team on March 1 at Central District @ 9:30.